

'EMOTIONAL IMPACT'

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Ted Would Have Won Election Easily--Unruh

By JACK WARDLAW

Ted Kennedy could have won the recent Presidential election by a landslide, a prominent Democrat said here today.

Jesse Unruh, speaker of the California House of Representatives said in an interview at Loyola University the Massachusetts senator could have had the Democratic nomination simply by picking up the phone, calling Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago and telling him he was interested.

UNRUH WAS at Loyola to participate in the Institute of Politics now in progress on the campus. He spoke this morning to an informal group of students and faculty in Danna Center.

"It would have been a landslide of 1964 proportions because of the emotional impact Kennedy would have had, had he run," Unruh said.

He declined to speculate on whether Kennedy will head the Democratic ticket in 1972, but said the senator will "play any role he wants in the Democratic party."

Unruh was chairman of the California delegation at the Chicago convention and was elected a delegate on the ticket pledged to the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Robert Kennedy would have been the nominee had he lived, Unruh believes.



—States-Item Photo.

JESSE UNRUH

IN A WAY, UNRUH said, it would have been better if the Democrats had suffered a worse defeat in this year's election. The process of reform within the Democratic party will move faster because it is out of power, he said, "but it might have been still more effective if it hadn't been so close."

Unruh said the cabinet named by President-elect Richard M. Nixon represents a "comfortable status quo" philosophy.

He said the only one with whom he is very familiar is California Lt. Gov. Robert Finch. He said he has a lot of respect for Finch but "I don't know how much freedom of action Nixon will give him."

Unruh said he believes the Democratic party can reclaim much of the support it lost among lower economic groups despite racial tensions. He said there is a lot of pressure within the Nixon camp to take actions that would result in a drop in employment.

"If unemployment rises as much as 1½ per cent, it will revive fears of a recession under a Republican administration," he said.

He said he believes the Walker Report on violence at the Chicago convention is accurate. He said police must not respond to agitation, but only to orders.

"If we can't expect that of a police force, we're in damn bad shape in this country."